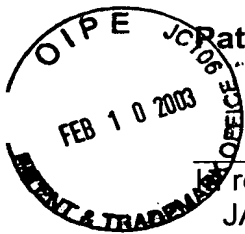


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Patent Case No. IN01344

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Pre Patent Application of:
JANICE K. ALBRECHT

Application No.: 09/981,215

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: 10/16/2001

Examiner: Shanon A. Foley

For: RIBAVIRIN-PEGYLATED INTERFERON:
ALFA HCV COMBINATION THERAPY

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Schering-Plough Corp.
Patent Dept., K-6-1-1990
Kenilworth, NJ 07033

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R.

§§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached Form PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not

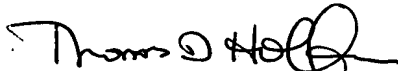
to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in any prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION



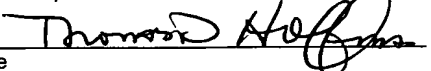
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Date: February 6, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

February 6, 2003
Date of Deposit

THOMAS D. HOFFMAN
Registered Representative


Signature

Feb 6 2003
Date of Signature